

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Shirota, et al.	)	Group Art Unit Unknown
			)	
Appl. No.	:	Unknown	)	
			)	
Filed	:	Herewith	)	
			)	
For	:	SOLID COMPOSITION	)	
			)	
Examiner	:	Unknown	)	

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to calculating the number of claims, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

**Please cancel Claims 1-8 without prejudice.**

**Please add the following claims:**

9. (New) A solid composition comprising a colorant, a gelation agent, a resin component, and one of the following solvents: (i) a solvent having a solubility parameter value, Y, of no more than 8.5; or (ii) a solvent composed of at least two types of solvents, each solvent having (a) an HLB value, X, of no more than 6.5; or (b) an X and a Y wherein  $Y \leq 18 - X$  when  $6.5 < X$ ,  $0 < Y$ .

10. (New) A solid composition according to Claim 9 wherein the solvent comprises at least a glycol ether.

11. (New) A solid composition according to Claim 9 wherein the solvent comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of ethylene glycol monobutyl ether, propylene

Appl. No. : Unknown  
Filed : Herewith

glycol monobutyl ether, tripropylene glycol monomethyl ether, and dipropyl glycol monomethyl ether as an essential component.

12. (New) A solid composition according to Claim 9 wherein the resin component comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of cellulosic resin and vinyl resin and at least one member selected from the group consisting of ketone resin, xylene resin, polyamide resin, and acrylic resin.

13. (New) A solid composition according to Claim 9 wherein the resin component comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of butyral resin, vinyl acetate resin, poly(vinyl acetate-co-vinyl chloride) copolymer resin, poly(vinyl acetate-co-ethylene) resin, cellulose acetate butyrate, ethylcellulose and acetylcellulose and at least one member selected from the group consisting of ketone resin, xylene resin, polyamide resin, and acrylic resin.

14. (New) A solid composition according to Claim 9 wherein the colorant is a fluorescent pigment in the form of a solid solution in a polyamide resin vehicle.

15. (New) A solid composition according to Claim 9, which is a solid writing material.

16. (New) A solid composition according to Claim 15, which is a wet-surface writing material.

17. (New) A solid composition according to Claim 16, which is a crayon.

18. (New) A solid composition according to Claim 9 wherein solvent (ii) has a Y wherein  $7 \leq Y \leq 12$ .

19. (New) A solid composition according to Claim 9 wherein solvent (ii) has an X wherein  $6.5 < X \leq 9$ .

20. (New) A solid composition according to Claim 9 wherein solvent (ii) has a Y wherein  $8 \leq Y \leq 9.5$ .

21. (New) A solid composition according to Claim 9 wherein solvent (i) has a X wherein  $6 \leq X \leq 8.5$ .

22. (New) A solid composition according to Claim 9 wherein the solvent is included at 20-80% by weight.

#### REMARKS

The amendment requested herein is requested in order to conform the application to U.S. practice. No new matter has been added. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

**Appl. No.** : **Unknown**  
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Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the amendment, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: March 12, 2001

By: 

Katsuhiro Arai

Registration No. 43,315

Agent of Record

620 Newport Center Drive

Sixteenth Floor

Newport Beach, CA 92660

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